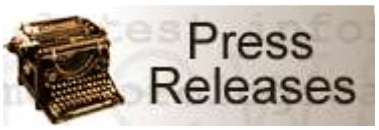

The Meteorological Office

PRESS OFFICE

23 October 1998 nr336

MET. OFFICE WIN OSCAR!

RYA British Nautical Awards - Met. Office win Marine Industry Services Award

The Met. Office last night received a prestigious award in recognition of exceptional service provision for the Marine Industry. The award was announced by the Royal Yachting Association and British Marine Industry Federation at the British Nautical Awards ceremony - "The UK Boating Oscars."

A statement issued on behalf of the RYA said, "The many varied services offered by The Met. Office - MetWEB, MetFAX, MetCALL, SMS, not to mention the world famous Shipping Forecast - really are second to none. MetFAX is also highly praised by all that use it, from day sailors to long range cruisers, regatta officials running a weekend competition to racing crews aiming for records."

Roger Hunt, Business Director of The Met. Office said, "We are delighted to receive this prestigious award for exceptional service. The Met. Office has enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with the marine community and is committed to providing the best service to sailors and the marine industry in general."

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